

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of no-till farming within soil, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
providing a darkened stubble;  
  
forming a furrow within the soil;  
  
5 and introducing seed within the furrow whereby the darkened stubble absorbs energy radiation to warm the soil temperature.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the darkened stubble is residues of cultivated crops.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the cultivated crops are cereal grains.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the residues of cereal grain are selected from the group consisting of wheat, barley, oats and rice.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the darkened stubble is darkened by application of a dark colored pigment.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the darkened stubble is darkened by genetically altering the color of the stubble.
7. A method of no-till farming comprising providing a darkened stubble.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the darkened stubble is residues of cultivated crops.
9. The method of claim 7 wherein the darkened stubble is residues of cereal grains.

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10. The method of claim 9 wherein the residues of cereal grain are selected from the group consisting of wheat, barley, oats and rice.

11. The method of claim 7 wherein the darkened stubble is darkened by application of a dark colored pigment.

12. The method of claim 7 wherein the darkened stubble is darkened by genetically altering the color of the stubble.